

Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda

June 23, 2022

11:00 am

Virtual Meeting Attendance

On June 23, 2022 at 11:00 am Commissioners from across the Eastern District attended a virtual special meeting of the Opioid Response Region 4 Council. Present were:

Board Members: Byron Pelton – Logan County, Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Chris Richardson – Elbert County

Advisory Council Members: Michelle Pemberton – Northeast Colorado Health Department

Also present: Tony Wells – Washington County, Kent Vance – Washington County, Gordon Westhoff – Morgan County, Greg Tacha – Town of Limon, Michael Brophy – Town of Otis, Michelle Oeser – Town of Elizabeth, Mark Turner – Sedgwick County, Maria Nestor – Town of Hugo

Also joining the meeting were special guests: Andrea Calhoon – Yuma County Administrator, Wanda Lousberg – Recovery Representative, Gini Pingnot – Colorado Counties, Inc.

Attorney General's Office Opt-Out Notifications/Funding Estimates

Calhoon provided an update on the distribution of opt-out emails and funding estimates for each local jurisdiction. Each local government should have received an email regarding their participation in the local region. Calhoon clarified that, under the requirements of the process, each entity wanting to participate in the local region needs to opt out.

Final Review 2-Year Abatement Plan

The group reviewed a list of questions and feedback requests from The OMNI Institute for finalization of the 2-year study. Calhoon provided feedback received via email from members not able to attend and the group discussed processes and priorities.

Priorities were reviewed and solidified based on prior meeting discussion. Primarily identified was transportation to existing treatment options that remove the current burden on local law enforcement, possibly with partnership with local public transit such as County Express and Outback Express. The greatest need in the region is a regional treatment solution, for which the group would like to explore partnerships including satellite locations for existing treatment centers and/or partnerships with local medical providers. Local treatment was identified as having significant financial and staffing barriers and likely not being a short-term solution.

The group supported split funding with additional program areas such as education to make strong immediate impact with funding while continued negotiation and assessment occurs. Discussion was held to have local public health agencies drive the public education component as Northeast Colorado Health reported that they receive similar requests regularly and are already exploring options for provision of educational services in this area.

Additionally, the group established the Regional Council as the lead agency for all RFP processes and opted to request RFPs put out by the Council include a requirement to identify and secure additional supporting funding opportunities with the goal of increasing the financial feasibility of proposed projects.

Gini Pingenot of Colorado Counties, Inc. provided updates on potential additional funding and partnership opportunities. More information will be available in the near future.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Region 4 Opioid Council will be the second Monday in July, July 11 at 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Byron Pelton, Chairman